

## Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-12 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

SS-15 NSC-10 INT-08 SCEM-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

TAR-02 RSR-01 /202 W

----- 017954

R 232126 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9522

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 3397

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: ENRG VE OPEC

SUBJECT: LITTLE REACTION SO FAR TO PRESIDENT' S ENERGY MESSAGE

1. REACTION TO PRESIDENT' S ENERGY MESSAGE OF APRIL 18  
HAS BEEN DELAYED OWING TO ABSENCE FROM CARACAS OF MOST  
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OFFICIALS DURING EASTER WEEK. EMBASSY MADE DISTRIBUTION OF TEXT TO SELECTED ADDRESSEES BUT FIRST NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS DID NOT APPEAR UNTIL SATURDAY, APRIL 21, SINCE NO NEWSPAPERS WERE PUBLISHED IN VENEZUELA ON THURSDAY OR FRIDAY.

2. OFFICIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN LIMITED TO STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS, DR HUGO PEREZ LA SALVIA, THAT HE IS EXPECTING TO RECEIVE MOMENTARILY DOCUMENTATION ON THE MEASURES FROM VENEZUELAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, AND THAT HE PREFERS TO EXAMINE THAT MATERIAL BEFORE COMMENTING. PEREZ DID NOT MENTION PUBLICLY COPY OF TEXT SUPPLIED TO HIM WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BY U. S. EMBASSY AND OBVIOUSLY WISHES TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY MEASURES ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT BEFORE TAKING A PUBLIC STANCE.

3. PETROLEUM ATTACHE HAD OCCASION TO TALK TO SIX OR EIGHT KEY OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY THIS MORNING, WHEN DELIVERING TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE. HE FOUND THAT THEY DID NOT WISH TO COMMENT IN DETAIL BEFORE STUDYING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE PROCLAMATION BUT BASICALLY THEY SEEM QUITE RELAXED AND UNCONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON VENEZUELA IN SHORT RUN. SAVING FEATURE FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW IS RETENTION OF HEMISPHEREIC PREFERENCE FOR 50,000 B/D HEATING OIL. THEY REGRET LOSS OF WH PREFERENCE ON LPG AND WITH RESPECT REFINERY INPUTS AND PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS. THEY ALSO NOTE THAT NEW IMPORT FEES WILL BE UNIFORM FOR ALL CRUDE OILS WHEREAS TARIFFS WERE LOWER FOR HEAVY CRUDE, OF WHICH VENEZUELA IS PREDOMINANT SUPPLIER THAN FOR LIGHT CRUDE.

4. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER REACTION AS IT DEVELOPS. MINMINES PEREZ EXPECTED MAKE STATEMENT EARLY NEXT WEEK.  
MCCLINTOCK

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Authority:** hilburpw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <07-Dec-2001 by hilburpw>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Subject:** LITTLE REACTION SO FAR TO PRESIDENT' S ENERGY MESSAGE  
**TAGS:** ENRG, VE, OPEC  
**To:** EUR  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BEIRUT  
JAKARTA  
JIDDA  
MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

